

Under Fire From Some Right Wingers

Foreign Relations Council Amused

By MILT FREUDENHEIM
SPECIAL PRESS CORRESPONDENT



THE LATE SENATOR McCARTHY

NEW YORK—With malice aforethought, certain right-wingers in Texas and California have been accusing the Council on Foreign Relations here of running the U. S. Government.

The charge is shrugged off with Olympian amusement by council officials.

Prominent Americans who happen to be members of the council have been running the country for years, it appears.

President Kennedy is surrounded with them, both inside the White House and in the Cabinet.

But Mr. Kennedy isn't quite as "in" with the council as his predecessor, Former President Dwight Eisenhower is and was a council member. Mr. Kennedy, a non-member, merely has written for council publications.

THE LAST FOUR American secretaries of state have been council members—Dean Rusk, Christian Herter, the late John Foster Dulles, and Dean Acheson.

Taking it the other way around, no fewer than five of the council's present directors also have top posts in Washington, and a sixth is slated for one.

They include Council Board Chairman John J. McCloy, White House disarmament adviser, and these council directors:

Central Intelligence Agency Chief Allen Dulles, UN Ambassador Adlai Stevenson, NATO Ambassador Thomas Finletter, nuclear tests negotiator Arthur Dean, and William C. Foster, slated to lead the new disarmament agency.

But actually the connection of council and Federal Government is hardly sinister.

The council is a private non-partisan men's club of 700 New Yorkers and 650 other Americans dedicated to studying foreign affairs.

Washington always has been ready to snap up the services of experts in this sorely under-staffed but all-important field.

"The council itself takes no positions on foreign policy problems," says Executive Director George S. Franklin, Jr. Members often differ sharply.

THE MEMBERSHIP LIST includes former GOP President Herbert Hoover as well as Democrat Stevenson. Far East expert Owen Lattimore, target of the late Senator Joseph McCarthy, appears on the alphabetical roster next to conservative columnist David Lawrence.

The 40-year-old council chooses its own members. There are some distinguished names still on the waiting list.

Operating on a budget close to \$1,000,000 this year, the council has three major activities: